



January 18, 2018

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Room TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: **Ex parte filing** in WC Docket No. 16-271 – **redacted data provided**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This week, separate *ex parte* meetings were conducted by Steve Merriam, Federal Advocate from Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. (ASTAC) and the undersigned from GVNW Consulting, Inc. (GVNW). On January 16, we met with Claude Aiken, Wireline Legal Advisor for Commissioner Clyburn and Travis Litman, Chief of Staff and Senior Legal Advisor for Commissioner Rosenworcel. On January 17, we met with Amy Bender, Wireline Legal Advisor for Commissioner O’Rielly and Jamie Susskind, Chief of Staff for Commissioner Carr. On January 18, we met with Jay Schwarz, Wireline Legal Advisor for Chairman Pai.

ASTAC provided a confidential update from its December 6, 2017 *ex parte* meetings on Alaska Plan broadband rate benchmark levels. This notice of the *ex parte* meeting includes the redacted version of the presentation.

In addition, we expressed support for the alternative proposal for how Alaska Plan participants could map their fiber and microwave middle mile networks as required by the *Alaska Plan Order*, as submitted by ATA member company representatives on December 14, 2017 (filed by Julie A. Veatch; Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis; counsel to GCI).

As required by the Commission’s rules, this *ex parte* record is now filed in the above referenced dockets. If there are any questions, please call me on 503.612.4409.

Respectfully submitted,

Via ECFS 1/18/18

Jeffrey H. Smith  
President and CEO

Enclosures

Copy to

Jay Schwarz, FCC  
Amy Bender, FCC  
Jamie Susskind, FCC  
Claude Aiken, FCC  
Travis Litman, FCC

Jens Laipenieks, ASTAC  
Steve Merriam, ASTAC